



Memorandum

Date: 5/20/2025
Meeting of: City Council

File No. AM No. 25-072
Type: Consent Item

TO: Members of the City Council
FROM: Mayor Angela Birney
DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR CONTACT(S):

Fire	Adrian Sheppard, Fire Chief	425-556-2201
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DEPARTMENT STAFF:

Fire	Jim Whitney	Deputy Fire Chief
Fire	Amy Moorhead	Medical Services Administrator

TITLE:

Adoption of a City Resolution to Renew King County Medic One/EMS Levy (2026-2031)

- a. Resolution No. 1603: A Resolution of the City of Redmond, Washington, Approving Placement of a Countywide Ballot Measure Before Voters in 2025 for a Funding Levy to Support Medic One/Emergency Medical Services (EMS) for the Period from January 1, 2026, Through December 31, 2031, Pursuant to RCW 84.52.069

OVERVIEW STATEMENT:

The City Council is requested to approve a resolution supporting the renewal of the Medic One/Emergency Medical Services (EMS) levy on the November 4, 2025, King County election ballot. This six-year property tax levy would set a countywide rate of 25 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property value for the 2026-2031 period.

☒ **Additional Background Information/Description of Proposal Attached**

REQUESTED ACTION:

☐ **Receive Information** ☐ **Provide Direction** ☒ **Approve**

REQUEST RATIONALE:

- **Relevant Plans/Policies:**
 - Redmond's Fire Department Strategic Plan for 2022-2027
 - Redmond Fire Department's Community Risk Assessment & Standards of Cover for 2022-2027
- **Required:**
RCW 84.52.069
- **Council Request:**
N/A
- **Other Key Facts:**

The City Council previously approved a resolution supporting the 2020-2025 King County Medic One/Emergency Medical Services levy on June 4, 2019. The levy was later approved by voters in the November 2019 election at a rate of 26.5 cents per \$1,000 of assessed property value.

OUTCOMES:

To place a countywide EMS levy on the ballot, state law requires that the County Council and at least 75% of all cities exceeding a population of 50,000 approve placing a countywide EMS proposal on the ballot. The City of Redmond is one of 11 cities in King County with a population over 50,000.

The proposed resolution provides the cities' support for submitting to the voters in 2025 a countywide ballot proposition for a six-year Medic One/EMS Levy at a rate of 25 cents per one thousand dollars of assessed value to provide stable and long-term funding for the countywide Medic One/EMS program for 2026-2031.

COMMUNITY/STAKEHOLDER OUTREACH AND INVOLVEMENT:

- **Timeline (previous or planned):**

A resolution supporting an EMS levy for 2026-2031 must be approved by King County and 75% of cities with a population exceeding 50,000 for the levy to be placed on the ballot. King County EMS requested cities to adopt Resolutions in support of placing the EMS Levy on the November 2025 ballot by the end of June. The King County Council must approve placing the levy on the November 2025 ballot by July 8th or they must abide by exceptional processing requirements (such as emergency clauses and a super-majority vote).

- **Outreach Methods and Results:**

N/A

- **Feedback Summary:**

N/A

BUDGET IMPACT:

Total Cost:

A rate of 25-cents per \$1,000 of assessed value for 2026-2031.

Approved in current biennial budget:

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ N/A

Budget Offer Number:

277

Budget Priority:

Safe and Resilient

Other budget impacts or additional costs:

☐ Yes

☐ No

☒ N/A

If yes, explain:

N/A

Funding source(s):

2026-2031 Medic One/Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Levy

Budget/Funding Constraints:

N/A

☐ **Additional budget details attached**

COUNCIL REVIEW:

Previous Contact(s)

Date	Meeting	Requested Action
3/18/2019	Committee of the Whole - Public Safety and Human Services	Provide Direction

Proposed Upcoming Contact(s)

Date	Meeting	Requested Action
N/A	Nothing proposed at this time	N/A

Time Constraints:

The current EMS levy expires at the end of 2025.

A resolution supporting an EMS levy for 2026-2031 must be approved by King County and 75% of cities with a population exceeding 50,000 for the levy to be placed on the ballot. King County EMS requested cities to adopt Resolutions in support of placing the EMS Levy on the November 2025 ballot by the end of June. The King County Council must approve placing the levy on the November 2025 ballot by July 8th or they must abide by exceptional processing requirements (such as emergency clauses and a super- majority vote).

ANTICIPATED RESULT IF NOT APPROVED:

Limited or discontinued funding for several essential services that the City of Redmond provides to its community and the broader region.

ATTACHMENTS:

Attachment A: 2026-2031 EMS Levy Resolution (draft)

Attachment B: Redmond City Council Presentation

Attachment C: Background Information | 2026-31 Levy